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COMMISSION ON NARCOTIC DRUGS ACTING AS
PREPARATORY BODY FOR THE SPECIAL SESSION
OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY DEVOTED TO THE
FIGHT AGAINST THE ILLICIT PRODUCTION,
SALE, DEMAND, TRAFFIC AND DISTRIBUTION
OF NARCOTIC DRUGS AND PSYCHOTROPIC
SUBSTANCES AND RELATED ACTIVITIES
Second session
Vienna, 16-20 March 1998
Item 2 (a) of the provisional agenda*

PREPARATIONS FOR THE SPECIAL SESSION OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY TO CONSIDER THE FIGHT AGAINST THE ILLICIT PRODUCTION, SALE, DEMAND, TRAFFIC AND DISTRIBUTION OF NARCOTIC DRUGS AND PSYCHOTROPIC SUBSTANCES AND RELATED ACTIVITIES AND TO PROPOSE NEW STRATEGIES, METHODS, PRACTICAL ACTIVITIES AND SPECIFIC MEASURES TO STRENGTHEN INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION IN ADDRESSING THE PROBLEM OF DRUG ABUSE AND ILLICIT TRAFFICKING

CONSIDERATION OF THE DRAFT PROVISIONAL AGENDA OF THE SPECIAL SESSION OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Note by the Secretariat

*E/CN.7/1998/PC.1.

V.98-50739 (E)

1. At its substantive session of 1996, the Economic and Social Council, in its resolution 1996/17 of 23 July 1996, decided to recommend to the General Assembly the convening of a special session to consider the fight against the illicit production, sale, demand, traffic and distribution of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances and related activities.

2. The General Assembly, in its resolution 51/64, section IV, of 12 December 1996, welcomed the proposal by the Economic and Social Council and decided to convene a special session in June 1998. The Assembly stressed that the special session should be devoted to assessing the existing situation of illicit drug production and traffic, with a view to strengthening international cooperation to address the problem of illicit drugs. The Assembly reaffirmed its intent to address the issues on the basis of the principle of shared responsibility and with full respect for the principles enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations and international law.

3. The General Assembly also decided that the Commission on Narcotic Drugs should act as the preparatory body for the special session, and that its deliberations should be open-ended, allowing for the full participation of all Member States of the United Nations and members of specialized agencies and observers, in accordance with established practice. In that capacity, the Commission was also requested to present proposals to the Assembly on all organizational matters relevant to the successful preparations for, holding of and follow-up to the special session.

4. The General Assembly further decided that the special session should have the following objectives:

(a) To promote the adherence to and full implementation by all States of the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs of 1961, the Convention on Psychotropic Substances of 1971 and the United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances of 1988;

(b) To adopt measures to increase international cooperation to contribute to the application of the law;

(c) To adopt measures to avoid the diversion of chemicals used in illicit drug production and to strengthen control of the production of and traffic in stimulants and their precursors;

(d) To adopt and promote drug abuse control programmes and policies and other measures, including those at the international level, to reduce the illicit demand for drugs;

(e) To adopt measures to prevent and sanction money-laundering, in order to implement the United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances of 1988;

(f) To encourage international cooperation to develop programmes of eradication of illicit crops and to promote alternative development programmes;

(g) To adopt measures to strengthen coordination within the United Nations system in the fight against drug trafficking and related organized crime, against terrorist groups engaged in drug trafficking and against illicit arms trade.

5. The General Assembly decided further, at its special session, to review resolution S-17/2, particularly the progress made in implementing the Global Programme of Action annexed thereto.

6. The Commission on Narcotic Drugs, acting as preparatory body for the special session, held its first session on 26 and 27 March 1997. At that session, the Commission identified a number of items for possible inclusion in the provisional agenda of the special session. The draft provisional agenda containing those items is attached to the present note (see annex).

7. At its fifty-second session, the General Assembly, in its resolution 52/92, section IV, of 12 December 1997, reaffirmed the objectives of the special session contained in its resolution 51/64, section IV, paragraphs 11 and 12, which provide the basis for the provisional agenda of the special session.

8. The Commission on Narcotic Drugs, acting as preparatory body for the special session, will hold its second session from 16 to 20 March 1998. The Commission is invited to make recommendations, if it so decides, on additional items for possible inclusion in the provisional agenda of the special session. In making its recommendations, the Commission should take into consideration General Assembly resolutions 51/64 and 52/92 and the items already identified.

Annex

DRAFT PROVISIONAL AGENDA OF THE SPECIAL SESSION OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY ON INTERNATIONAL DRUG CONTROL

1. Opening of the special session.

2. Minute of silent prayer or meditation.

3. Credentials of representatives to the special session of the General Assembly:

   (a) Appointment of the members of the Credentials Committee;

   (b) Report of the Credentials Committee.

4. Election of the President.

5. Election of other officers.

6. Adoption of the agenda.

7. Report of the preparatory body for the special session.

8. Organization of the special session.

9. General debate.

10. Review of international drug control instruments:

    (a) Adherence to and implementation of international drug control treaties;

    (b) Review of General Assembly resolution S-17/2, adopted by the Assembly at its seventeenth special session, in particular progress made in implementing the Global Programme of Action annexed thereto.

11. Measures to promote implementation of the international drug control treaties and strengthen international cooperation in the fight against the illicit production, sale, demand, traffic and distribution of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances and related activities, including corruption, and proposals for new strategies, methods and practical activities in addressing the problem of drug abuse and illicit trafficking, with due regard to the gender perspective, in particular:

    (a) Judicial cooperation and strengthening of national legislation;

    (b) Prevention of diversion of chemicals used in the illicit manufacture of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances, and measures to strengthen control of the manufacture of and trafficking in stimulants and their precursors;

    (c) Reduction of the illicit demand for drugs, including the draft declaration on the guiding principles of demand reduction and its implementation;

(d) Prevention, sanctioning and action against money-laundering;

(e) International cooperation in illicit crop eradication and alternative development;

(f) Coordination within the United Nations system in the fight against drug trafficking and related organized crime, against terrorist groups engaged in drug trafficking and against illicit arms trade;

(g) Promoting regional cooperation.

12. Review of the international drug control regime: strengthening United Nations machinery for drug control.

13. Adoption of the final documents of the special session and follow-up measures for their implementation.